

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 209
By Cobb

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Gerald Chapman of
Fayetteville, Tennessee.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the untimely passing of Gerald Chapman; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gerald Chapman was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a native of Lincoln County, he was the son of the late Charles Hale and Mary Markham Chapman; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Central High School in 1957, Mr. Chapman served with bravery and honor in the U.S. Navy. After his heroic service to our Country, he worked for Frito-Lay and Armour Grocery Products for several years; and

WHEREAS, after returning to Fayetteville, Tennessee, this ambitious businessman purchased a local grocery store; the store flourished under his superb leadership, and Mr. Chapman later sold it to relocate the growing business; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gerald Chapman served with acumen and alacrity as the owner and operator of Gerald's Foodland at its current location on the corner of Lincoln and College streets, in which position he earned the respect of his peers, customers, and employees alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, Gerald Chapman's friendly smile and appreciation for his customers kept them coming back, as did the knowledge that he shared whatever he could with the people of Lincoln County, supporting local charities and community endeavors; and

WHEREAS, along with his impressive tenure as a businessman, Mr. Chapman found time to contribute to his native town in numerous capacities; he served for nearly twenty years

on the Fayetteville Gas System's Board of Directors, served as a member of the Boards of Directors for the Bank of Lincoln County, and the Lincoln County Area Crime Stoppers, of which he was also a founding member, and participated as a member of the Elks Lodge; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gerald Chapman was an active and devout member of the Washington Street Church of Christ, which he served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, Gerald Chapman was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gerald Chapman enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Alice Chapman, and was the proud father of Elizabeth Chapman and Dr. Todd Chapman; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable man will be greatly missed by his sisters, Inez Swinford and Hilda Holland, and brothers, Billy Chapman and Forrest Chapman; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by three brothers, Charles Chapman, Johnny Chapman, and Tommy Chapman; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gerald Chapman leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Mr. Gerald Chapman, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Chapman.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.